

**SOUTH Vietnam**

## RESOUNDING VICTORIES OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES

PLAIN OF REEDS (Dec. 4):

**1,000 Enemy Soldiers Put  
out of Action, 30 War  
Vessels Sunk or Set Afire  
in Nguyen Van Tiep Canal.**

GIA LAI (Nov. 24):

**A Convoy of 68 Vehicles  
Wiped Out on Road 19,  
20 Km from An Khe.**

BU DOP (Nov. 28 and 29):

**A U.S. Battalion and 5  
Puppet Companies Put out  
of Action 135 Km North of  
Saigon.**

(PAGE 3)

# VIETNAM COURIER

Information Weekly—E.O. : 46 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi—Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

December 11

1967

No 141

4th Year



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Despite heavy U.S.  
bombings, Co-operative V.  
in Dong Anh district,  
suburb of Hanoi, obtains  
an average yield of 5.6  
tons per hectare in 1967

inGloss

## A BUMPER RICE CROP, HIGH YEARLY YIELDS BETWEEN 6 AND 8 TONS PER HECTARE

(PAGE 4)



Tan Phong Co-operative (Thao Binh  
province): average yield of 8.1 tons  
per hectare in 1967

Up to Dec. 4, 1967

# 2,614

**U.S. planes  
were downed over  
North Viet Nam**

## PROGRESSIVE MANKIND CONDEMNS U.S. CRIMES OF GENOCIDE IN SOUTH VIET NAM

### I - TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASES

On Nov. 25, 1967, French professor Francis Kahn, M.D., delivered before the Bertrand Russell Tribunal met in Copenhagen a special report on the use by the U.S. imperialists of toxic chemicals and gases in South Viet Nam for genocide purposes.

He laid stress on the fact that such gases—used to a high degree—as DM, CN and CS, had provoked vomiting, headache and suffocation and had caused many cases of death.

On the basis of laboratory experiments and of South Vietnamese realities, F. Kahn proved that those gases, far from being harmless and "humane" weapons as argued by American officials, were lethal products. Thus, the spraying of U.S. gaseous in Quang Village (Sept. 5, 1965) had caused the death of 13 people and seriously affected the health of 19 others, the victims being in general women and children. In 1966, the wearing of gas masks, foreign news agency reports, etc., an Australian soldier, Bowell, had died from these gases, and several other people were seriously affected, as the *Chi Lon* in January 1966. F. Kahn showed a number of exhibits collected by the Chemical Warfare Commission:

gas grenades and shells, gas grenades, trousers and gas masks used by American and satellite soldiers.

Doctor Krivin and film maker R-Pic who had investigated U.S. crimes in Eastern Nam Bo on behalf of the Tribunal spoke of what they had witnessed in Tay Ninh province.

F. Kahn, Krivin and R-Pic concluded that the American imperialist commission was Viet Nam and all peace-loving people in the world are bound to denounce them and they bury them hands.

Nguyen Van Thien stressed: "American crimes are piling up. More barbarous than the Nazis, the American imperialists are the greatest culprits of genocide ever known in the history of mankind. The South Vietnamese people have resolutely stood against them."

On Nov. 25, 1967, Nguyen Van Thien, head of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. delegation, proved that U.S. intervention and aggression had been tied to a criminal policy marked by ever more savage acts of genocide. The American imperialists at the South Vietnamese people's lives, the Vietnamese people's material and spiritual conditions; they hit at the morale of the South Vietnamese people, suppress their patriotism and will of independence and

unity. Carrying out the "scorched earth policy," they massacred hundreds of thousands of people, herded the population into concentration camps and "strategic hamlets," carried out mopping-up operations, destroyed crops, sprayed toxic chemicals, razed houses, killed people and annihilated normal conditions of life. They deprived families, snatched wives from their husbands, and children from their parents. They murdered national culture and brought about impoverishment and depravity in occupied cities.

Nguyen Thien had led a normal life at Lai Thieu (The Dau Mot) after having taken part in the resistance against the French colonialists. With the return of peace in 1954, she had been arrested by Saigon administration. She spoke of the horrors of the U.S.-Saigon crimes she had known for four years. She particularly spoke of the "scorched earth" policy of slow death applied to Pseudo Condemn against Vietnamese patriots.

III - U.S. CRIMES AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAMESE WOMEN

On Nov. 24, 1967, two South Vietnamese women, Yuen, pharmacist in Saigon, and Thien, a housewife, peasant of The Dau Mot province (South Viet Nam), denounced the inhuman policy of reprisals applied by the American imperialists and their lack of humanity and former resistance members.

Pham Thi Yen, well-known intellectual of Saigon, a former combatant of the resistance against the Japanese fascists and the French colonialists, had been jailed for seven months, from April 12, 1966 to February 26, 1967. Sentenced to death, she had been sent from prison to prison (Ghi Dinh, Chi Hoa, The Dau Mot, Phu Loi, Pseudo Condemn). She had been sent free thanks to strong protests of public opinion and the sympathy of Saigonese intellectuals.

Mrs. Yen described in detail the tortures she had suffered: she had been hung to the ceiling with her arms crossed against her back, then beaten until she lost

for all the consequences arising therefrom.

The Government of the D.R.V.N. fully supports the stand of the Government of the People's Republic of China expounded in the Dec. 2, 1967 statement of the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

The D.R.V.N. Government calls on the governments and people in the peace- and justice-loving countries in the world to severely condemn those physical acts of the U.S. and take in time all necessary measures to check them, to demand that the U.S. stop unconditionally the bombing and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. and to end to all the attacks, provocations and threats against the D.R.V.N. and strictly request the D.R.V.N. to declare and to stop violation of trade and navigation between countries.

The letter denounced that Johnson has secured billions of dollars in the war in Viet

Riffard, writer, Melchiste Riffard, who had visited the liberated zone of South Viet Nam, spoke of U.S. crimes against South Vietnamese women and children: massacres, tortures applied to genitalia so that female victims become sterile.

Bertholme, reporter of the French paper *La Croix*, gave a tragic picture of a case called "free-bombing" areas in which "everything is razed, everything that moves is shot at by the Americans."

Accompanying U.S.-Saigon troops in an operation, he had seen four young men beheaded with knives before the eyes of the crowd. Fighting and fire back onto the Cambodian territory, said that this was a more serious step, to a shooting war against

V - BARRISTER L.BASSO CONCLUDED: THE AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS COMMIT CRIMES OF AGGRESSION AND GENOCIDE IN SOUTH VIET NAM

On Nov. 24, L.Basso, an Italian M.P., professor in Rome, member of the Bertrand Russell Tribunal, brought in a verdict of guilty. He concluded that:

a) The reports and exhibits have proved that the American use of weapons prohibited by international law to massacre the population, the use of gully, napalm and phosphorus bombs, dum, dust cartridges, toxic chemicals and gases.

b) The U.S. penitentiary regime is savage. The prisoner is tortured, kept in a cage, deprived of all rights, dirty cells so narrow that he has to stand up day and night.

c) The American imperialists persecuted the civilian population and treated on inhuman terms their mopping-up operations, burning and pillaging the villages, burnt women alive, killed on mass, old folk and children, had the population into concentration camps under aerial conditions of material and moral life, thousands of prisoners to a slow death.

L.Basso stressed that the only conclusion one might draw from realities in South Viet Nam is that American imperialists have committed the crime of genocide in their aggression against the Vietnamese people.

He would prefer to die rather than be sent on post December 12 to Viet Nam to fight in the dirty war unleashed by the U.S. government.

On Dec. 3, another American, Erik Thoen, 27, in San Francisco, who had been in Viet Nam for 12 months, suffered when he turned himself into a live target.

When police smashed into the locked bedroom of his home in the city of Honolulu, Thoen screamed, "Leave me alone, I have the right to live." He said that his action would have "stop the U.S. aggression."

This is the 9th American to burn himself to death to protest against the U.S. aggression against the Vietnamese people.

(Continued page 6)

VIET NAM COUNTRIER

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U.S. SAVINGS FOR WAR CANNOT FRIGHTEN THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE

According to UPI, on December 2, 1967 South Viet Nam puppet president Nguyen Van Thieu again tried to vindicate his "right to pursue the Viet Cong in Cambodia," by affirming that he did have the right to pursue the Viet Cong in Cambodia, fighting and fire back onto the Cambodian territory, said that this was a more serious step, to a shooting war against

However, all the unwarranted slanderous allegations of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges cannot deceive the world opinion. Regarding the Cambodian people, as their head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the Cambodian Government and press have stressed, the campaign of slander against this country has been going on since the U.S. troops in South Viet Nam, apart from its aim to prepare

world opinion for bringing the war of aggression to Cambodia. The Cambodian people will not be cowed by the U.S. imperialists. If the latter recklessly attack them they will fight to safeguard the independence of their Fatherland.

U.S. people are extremely indignant at the attitude of the Yankee imperialists and their stooges who are stubbornly slandering Cambodia and threatening to attack this country. We wholeheartedly support the just stand of the Cambodian Government which resolutely repels all the slanderous allegations of the Yankee imperialists. We are determined to strengthen our solidarity with the fraternal Cambodian people to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors. The American imperialists are preparing to launch all their attacks, provocations and renounce their scheme of aggression against Cambodia. Their recklessness will only bring them disastrous failures.

At this occasion, Nguyen Van Trinh, Foreign Minister of the D.R.V.N., on Nov. 4, 1967 sent a letter of protest to the U.S. Government and the U.S. people of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen informing him of the recognition of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen by the Government of the U.S. and

being castigated by friends of peace and justice around the world. He must be held responsible for this.

At this moment, Washington is still alive with debates. A few V.I.P.'s have begun to feel the imminent failure of the U.S. administration and U.S. expeditionary force in the Viet Nam war. Yet, some American rulers and generals still want to throw more troops into the South Viet Nam battlefield.

Defeated in South Viet Nam, the Johnson administration has resorted to escalation in the North. So far, more than 2,000 U.S. aircraft have been shot down and a few thousand pilots, killed or captured while U.S. air superiority over the puppet and satellite troops in Viet Nam, giant B-52's no longer play their strategic role and nuclear weapons are being transported in every battle.

In the North, three of them have bitten the dust. This is a severe blow to the U.S. force, in any way, no matter the bankruptcy of the F-105 supersonic jets much vaunted by the government and its debut.

There is no denying that the failure of the Johnson government in its war of aggression against Viet Nam is all-round, with respect to lines, policies, strategy and tactics. Johnson has shifted the whole blame for this failure onto McNamara alone, because he ordered the dispatch of U.S. troops to Viet Nam and the bombing of North Viet Nam. The responsibility for the war of aggression in Viet Nam rests with President Johnson.

The world's people and the Cambodian people themselves have been opposing and condemning the U.S. government's war in Viet Nam, not because of the conduct of the war, but because the U.S. government has carried out an aggressive war against the people of Cambodia and Laos as irreversibly claimed by Humphrey, Rank, Westmoreland and McNamara. It is obvious that it would be necessary to remind them that the forces countering them were then not confined to the peoples of these countries alone.

On the occasion of the proclamation of Independence of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, on behalf of the Vietnamese people, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, in our own name, with the best wishes of our Excellency and, through you, to the Government and people of Southern Yemen, we wish to convey to you our warmest greetings.

May the Southern Yemen people, with their glorious anti-imperialist tradition, record many more successes in their struggle to consolidate a prosperous country and contribute to the safeguarding of peace in the Middle East and the world.

May the friendship between the two peoples of Viet Nam and Southern Yemen develop with every passing day.

Hanoi, November 4, 1967  
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President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

PHAM VAN DONG  
Premier of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

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### COMMENTARY AMONG THE RULING CIRCLES IN WASHINGTON:

## HEAVY SE BARKS SHARPER AN ANGLONISMS

S.O. U.S. Defense Secretary McNamara had to step down. That this "most able" defense secretary, the "main pillar" of the U.S. military establishment, had been removed by President Johnson from the post he held for 7 years, a record time in the U.S. war, was no uncommon thing. In the final analysis, the dismissal of McNamara came as no surprise. It was only unfortunate for the U.S. Government that it followed a rather botched up by the big shots of the White House and the Pentagon about U.S. phony victories in South Viet Nam.

As Secretary of Defense, McNamara had taken pains visiting South Viet Nam nine times in an effort to realize the Johnson Government's lines and policies in its war of aggression against Viet Nam. He racked his brains to devise ways and means to crack the evolutionary movement of the South Vietnamese people. Under his direction and with President Johnson's approval, U.S. generals had been successively sent to Viet Nam, among them Taylor, the author of the once much lauded Staley-Taylor plan. On McNamara's recommendations, renowned American military strategists, second one after another as ambassadors in Saigon. Yet, the U.S. "special war" strategy, this kind of war, "local war" put into practice in Viet Nam has also come to a halt. In such circumstances, the policies of war and aggression in Viet Nam, with McNamara's name, have been a cropper. In such circumstances, the policies of war and aggression in Viet Nam, with McNamara's name, have been a cropper.

Even General Taylor, the father of the "special war" strategy, who had come to Viet Nam, had in the end to throw up the sponge and to pack off. In his last days in Viet Nam, General Taylor, who had been in Viet Nam for 12 months, suffered when he turned himself into a live target.

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### MESSAGE OF GREETING TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF SOUTHERN YEMEN

To His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Qatan, Al Shaabi President and Prime Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen

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# A BUMPER CROP OF HIGH-YIELD RICE BETWEEN 6 AND 8 TONS PER HECTARE

**H**ARVESTING of Autumn rice has been in the main completed in North Vietnam. First statistics show a big success for the D.R.V.N.'s agriculture.

The Autumn cultivation commenced about July and continued for most of the country the main crop of the year (1). On its success largely depends the realization of the task laid down for our agriculture: to attain and surpass the yield of 5 tons/ha/year. (2)

In fact, the great efforts made by the State and the entire people in providing our agriculture with an advanced material and technical foundation have greatly improved the working conditions of the peasantry, the bulk of which has been co-operativized. Nevertheless intensive cultivation of rice still calls for large-scale mobilization of man-power to tackle numerous jobs such as ploughing, irrigation and hydraulics, transplanting, weeding, preparation of manures (dung, ash, green composts, etc.), soil improvement, fight against diseases and insects, harvesting, etc. Our readers may remember well that it was just since August 1967 that U.S. air raids against the D.R.V.N., especially on Hanoi, Hai Phong and the Red River delta provinces, have assumed a new scale and intensity. The 500 enemy planes brought down in 132 days, from July 16 to November 25, suffice to give an idea of the most this air recrudescence. The number of aircraft downed by the peasant militia was the largest ever seen in any corresponding period since the beginning of U.S. escalation north of the 17th parallel, something which lends even more accent to the significance of the successes of the current season.

**N**ORTH Viet Nam possesses many rice-growing areas, the most important — and by far — being the delta of the Red River. The central plains in the southern part — the "handle of a saucer" — as some people put it — and the midland provinces are also rice producers, while the uplands with an excessively rugged surface poses, nevertheless, bustins and some large valleys propitious to this crop.

In 1966, Thai Binh, a coastal province in the delta south-east of Hanoi, was the first in the country to have

obtained 5 tons per hectare on the whole of its acreage. This year, spectacular performances have been achieved by the peasants of this province. The Tan Phung co-op, for instance, has raised the 1967 yield of its ricefields to 5.1 tons/ha/year. In 1966 and in 1967, it obtained 4.1 tons/ha/year and 4.3 tons/ha/year for its Autumn crop alone. Van Dai, another co-op well known for the high rate of acidity of its soil, has obtained no less than 6 tons/ha/year.

The province of Nam Ha, whose capital is the martyred textile city of Nam Dinh, some south-east of Hanoi, Hai Ha district, has increased the yield by 0.4 ton over last year, obtaining 5.3 tons/ha/year. Some of its villages have achieved nearly 6 tons/ha/year. For its part, Phung Dong co-op has reaped more than 3.6 tons of Autumn rice per hectare, raising the yearly yield to nearly 7 tons/ha/year. Tan Van Tru co-op, situated in a low-lying region of the delta where formerly Autumn crop was impossible, has brought in, thanks to a tremendous effort in small-scale hydraulic work, 3.3 tons of Autumn rice, surpassing the annual yield of 6 tons/ha.

Hung Yen and Hai Duong provinces, situated on the Hanoi-Hai Phong highway, also obtained brilliant successes. Tu Ky district (Hai Duong) has exceeded the 5 tons/ha/year target on its whole acreage. My Xa, one of the 3 co-ops of Ngoc Son village, same district, has gathered 5.5 tons of Autumn rice per hectare. With its Summer rice yield of 3.7 tons/ha, My Xa has set a new record for the yearly production 9.3 tons per hectare; Ngoc Son village has reached the figure 7.98 tons/ha/year.

Dai Xuan, another co-op in Hai Duong which has held for 4 years running the yield record of the province, has brought in on an average 4.1 tons of Autumn rice per hectare, or nearly 8 tons/ha/year. Members of the Labour Youth Union in the same village have achieved yields between 8.6 and nearly 10 tons per hectare on the 100 mu (over 35 ha) of 5-ton ricefields to fight Yankee aggressors committed to their care.

In 5 of the 6 districts of Hung Yen, the number of co-ops with high Autumn rice yield (over 2.5 tons/ha) has increased fourfold compared with the previous year, and the ricefields of 33 villages have yielded 5 or 6 tons per hectare. The youth militia of the 35-ton ricefields to fight Yankee aggressors committed to their care.

In 1966, Thai Binh, a coastal province in the delta south-east of Hanoi, was the first in the country to have

charge of the youth vary between 4.4 and 6.5 tons/ha for this Autumn crop alone.

The agricultural successes in suburban districts of Hai Phong and Hanoi are full of meaning. Vinh Bae district (Hai Phong) has brought in on an average 2.6 tons/ha of Autumn rice, or 5.1 tons/ha/year. That is, 5.6 per cent more than planned. Many co-ops have achieved 6 tons/ha/year and the number of those surpassing the 5 tons/ha/year mark has doubled compared with last year.

Three of the 4 suburban districts of Hanoi have surpassed the 5-ton mark. In the current season, the record is 3.25 tons/ha and the yearly average for the suburban districts of the capital reaches 5.17 tons/ha. In Gia Lam district, particularly attacked by the enemy during his recent escalation, as still evidenced by the U.S. planes crashing into the ricefields over an area of one square kilometre, 5 co-ops have surpassed 6 tons/ha/year.

In the midlands, Vinh Phuc province, some 30 kilometres north-west of Hanoi, has brought in on an average 3.1 tons per hectare. Two districts have attained or surpassed the 5 tons/ha/year mark and another has attained 4.5 tons/ha/year. The number of "4-ton ha/year co-ops" has nearly quadrupled, totalling 150 for the whole province. The district of Thuan has obtained 3.73 tons of Autumn

shells of all calibres. Co-operative N. — a hero unit — has obtained 2.33 tons per hectare in the Autumn crop which is, of this kind, less important than the Winter crop.

In the highlands, the famous valley of Dien Bien Phu has seen an increase of 0.5 ton per hectare and of 1,000 tons of Autumn rice compared with last year. The average yield for this crop at Phong Long co-op has attained 2.8 tons/ha on the 300 ha of its ricefields, one-third of which has yielded from 3.4 to 4.7 tons per hectare of Autumn rice.

Farther east, the large valley of Thanh Chau has an average yield of from 2.7 tons to 3.8 tons per hectare, an increase of 0.35 ton over the same crop of last year. Some co-ops in this region have brought in from 3 to 3.4 tons of Autumn rice per hectare.

In the upper valley of the Red River, close to the Chinese frontier, many villages of Sa Pa district have been able to grow 2 crops annually, thanks to hydraulic work. They have achieved a yield of more than 5.1 tons per hectare for this year's Autumn rice crop, and 5.5 tons/ha for the whole year. At a co-op in another district, peasants of ethnic minorities in the region have brought in 4.5 tons of Autumn rice per hectare. Ban Ngan co-op in Cao Bang province has reaped 2.8 tons of Autumn rice on its 100 ha of ricefields and raised its annual per hectare yield to 6 tons.

(Continued page 7)

(1) For centuries, Viet Nam has grown two rice crops yearly: the Winter crop with sowing in October-November and harvest in May-June (only in relatively high-yield fields) and the Autumn crop with sowing in May-June and harvest in October-November. The priority given by the D.R.V.N. Government to hydraulic work has turned the major part of its arable areas into double-crop ricefields. For example, the 100 mu (35 ha) of 5-ton ricefields in the Vinh Bae district of Hai Phong, which were formerly only one-crop, are now double-cropping in its agricultural calendar 2 other crops, that of Spring (with sowing in February-March and harvest in June) and that of Summer (sowing in April-May and harvest in July-August). This makes it possible to grow 3 crops per year on the same field, in many provinces.

(2) At a comparison, we take from the Statistics of Indo-China the following figures on the per hectare yield in the 1950s and 1960s: Indo-China 1950: 1.4 tons in 1950 and 1.3 tons in 1960.

Emulation movement among Vietnamese women consisting in assuming, in the place of man, production, education of the children and defence of the village.

The Winter 1967 - Spring 1968 crop.

**T**OGETHER with the making of commonly-used farm implements, the State-owned and co-operativized workshops (crafts) that of 1966.

**10** State farms in Nghe An province have fulfilled their 1967 State plan and are preparing to tackle their 1968 plan. The main trees exceeded the target: that of coffee by 18 per cent, of rubber by 10 per cent, of tobacco 1 per cent. The production of tea, maize, peanut and other crops was also higher than in 1966.

**WORKERS** of the engineering plant of Thai Binh province have succeeded in turning out a handy 300-cv pump. These machines produced in series have begun to serve

an agra from wounds caused by bomb splinters in their head and chest. The letter also informed him that his son had been wounded by steel pellets.

When Le Trang arrived, he found Tran Phung talking with Hanh. The political instructor, suppressing his grief, was seeking to cheer up his structure, saying: "You would better take a few days' leave to put things at home in order," he said to Hanh.

But the gunner only shook his head: "No, not until I have buried in their heads the enemy's mother!"

Hanh's answer was also that of Tran Phung to his own question. He nodded silently.

The gun at the command post sounded the alert. Everyone rushed to his post. The company leader reminded his unit:

The Winter 1967-Spring 1968 period began earlier than the previous years throughout North Viet Nam. The raising of the masses and the democratic movement among the peasants, made it possible to undertake intensive cultivation alongside reclamation of lands. As compared with last year, the area grown with rice in Nam Ha increased 5 times, in Hai Bae 2.8 times and in Thai Binh 2.1 times, while that devoted to the cultivation of sweet potato in Thai Binh increased by 4,600 hectares, of asparagus by 5,400 hectares.

**HA TINH** province fulfilled its 1967 re-fishing plan 6 months ahead of schedule. Thanks to their technical know-how as regards weather conditions and the peculiarities of the fish and the sea, the organization of manpower, in September alone fishers in Can

Loc district brought in a quantity of fish equal to the catch of the first 6 months of the current year, that is, on an average, 2 times more per month in comparison with 1966.

**SURGEONS**, professors, lecturers and research workers specialized in embryology and cytology met in Hanoi recently and founded the first Hanoi Morphology Association.

According to professor Do Xuan Hop, the Association's purpose is to research in human morphology constitutes a requirement of the building of socialism and, moreover, in the political, economic, medical, artistic and even military fields.

Already the long-range guns had gone into action. And the medium-range guns, too. The whole of Hai Phong shook with gunfire. Company leader Le Trang still stood motionless like a statue. A light of places swooped down to bomb a populated quarter.

"Fire!" Le Trang snapped. The guns of his unit fired. The wall of fire blocked the onrush of the enemy and compelled them to break formation. They vainly dropped their bomb loads on the city and turned against the gun aims.

The barrage was clouded in a thick curtain of smoke from the bomb and shell explosions. Only a red command flag in Le Trang's hand was seen striking up and down. In the third minute of the fight two enemy planes caught fire.

Bombs exploded everywhere. Observer Pham Xuan Hong was hit by a bomb splinter. He staggered and the field-glasses dropped from his hand. But before the medic came to his aid, he fell, and, grasping the telephone, he reported distinctly: "Co-ordinates X, a flight of P-4s, speed..."

A blast flew up beside the command post of the company which was instantly engulfed in smoke. The enemy had fired a rocket.

"Let's avenge our company leader!" the whole unit roared almost simultaneously.

However, Le Trang was again on his feet, the flag hoisted almost simultaneously and he was dark with gun powder.

No sooner had he raised the flag than another bomb splinter cut off his forehead. He went atop the fortification to command the fight with his hand.

In order to serve fighting in the area, the Hai Phong

(Continued page 6)

Tran Phung stopped short. The battlefield was completely silent except for the soft sobbing of Hanh. Not able to control himself, the man in Hanh's crew screamed aloud.

"Let's avenge Comrade Hanh's mother!"

"Let's avenge her!" the whole artillery ground thundered in unison.

Already the long-range guns had gone into action. And the medium-range guns, too. The whole of Hai Phong shook with gunfire. Company leader Le Trang still stood motionless like a statue. A light of places swooped down to bomb a populated quarter.

"Fire!" Le Trang snapped. The guns of his unit fired. The wall of fire blocked the onrush of the enemy and compelled them to break formation. They vainly dropped their bomb loads on the city and turned against the gun aims.

The barrage was clouded in a thick curtain of smoke from the bomb and shell explosions. Only a red command flag in Le Trang's hand was seen striking up and down. In the third minute of the fight two enemy planes caught fire.

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Chi Chi Co-operative (Hung Yen province) obtains in 1967 5.9 tons of paddy per hectare on the average.

rice per hectare, or 7.55 tons/ha/year.

In Hai Bae, north-west of Hanoi, a bumper crop has also been reported. For instance, the 344 hectares of Tan Hong village have yielded on an average 3.5 tons of Autumn rice per hectare, or an yearly yield of 6.5 tons per hectare. Worth noticing is that on 17-ton ricefields to fight Yankee aggressors and those of the "Three Responsibilities" (4) respectively committed to the care of the youth and women of the village, 60 hectares in all, 270 tons of dried autumn rice (4.5 tons/ha) have been reaped.

In the important coastal plain of Thanh Hoa, 120 km south of Hanoi, the harvest is also termed as good. Some co-ops, such as Dong Phung Hong, have topped the average figure of 4 tons/ha for Autumn rice and a good many others have achieved yields swinging between 3.4 and 3.7 tons/ha.

Further south, in the Vinh Lich area, just north of the 17th parallel, where each inhabitant has received on an average several hundred U.S. bombs and

**T**HE successes obtained in the 1967 Autumn rice crop, though spectacular, are not at all extraordinary in the present conditions of North Viet Nam where every word in all branches of activity, economic, cultural, political, military, social, etc., has been bound to toward the sacred struggle against aggression for national salvation. Our peasants, spurred by their patriotism which had already stood the test of time during the last anti-French Resistance, have worked wonders to exact the maximum amount of produce from the earth.

Not a few major hydraulic projects have been conceived or rendered suitable by American raids; however, with shovels, picks, axes, improved tools and some mechanical instruments too, our peasants, men and women, have won the battle against drought which struck several regions.

Thus Tan Phung has obtained 8.01 tons per hectare per year at the cost of turning out a handy 300-cv pump. These machines produced in series have begun to serve

C. Co-operative (Quang Binh province) has made the best use of bomb craters to rear fish. Other craters have been filled up for rice cultivation.





## SOUTH VIET NAM RESOUNDING VICTORIES OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES

**PLAIN OF REEDS: 1,000 Enemy Soldiers Put out of Action, 30 War Vessels Sunk or Set Afire in Nguyen Van Tiep Canal (December 4, 1967)**

**GIA LAI: A Convoy of 68 Vehicles Wiped Out on Road 19, 20 Km from An Khe (November 24, 1967)**

**BU DOP: A U.S. Battalion and 5 Companies Put out of Action 13 Km North of Saigon (November 28 and 29, 1967)**

**G**IAIPHONG Press Agency reported that fierce battles had taken place in Nam Bo and the Western High Plateaux.

On Dec. 4, 1967, the P.L.A.F. put out of action over 1,000 enemy soldiers, sank and set afire 30 war vessels in the Nguyen Van Tiep canal, 10 km southwest of Saigon. Five battalions of puppet Infantry Division 9 and 100 launches and motor-boats of the puppet Flotilla 23 took part in the operation against two villages lying between the provinces of My Tho and Sa Dec in the Plain of Reeds. At 5:45 a.m. the P.L.A.F. attacked the enemy in two columns: the first column sank 5 enemy vessels and the second 15 vessels. Up to 3 p.m., the P.L.A.F. destroyed more vessels. As a result, in

over 9 hours, they sank or set afire 30 ships and put out of action 1,000 enemy troops.

**T**HE P.L.A.F. successfully attacked My Tho town and Cai Nus military sector. Cai Be district, on the night of Nov. 29, destroying an M.113 squadron, a sea-going boat convoy, an "open-arms" centre, a platoon of "civil guards", and badly mauled puppet Sapper Battalion 7. They also destroyed a number of technical equipment and a big ammunition dump. On the night of Dec. 4, they stormed Cai Nus military sector, Cai Be district, 5 km southwest of Saigon: 7 points were overrun, 2 companies wiped out, many puppet soldiers captured,

many cruel agents killed and a great quantity of arms and ammunition seized. After that victory the P.L.A.F. helped the inhabitants destroy the "strategic hamlets" in the region and liberate Mau Thanh village.

**M**EANWHILE, [the P.L.A.F. won a resounding victory at Bu Dop, 13 km north of Saigon on Nov. 28 and 29; they defeated the enemy in Bu Dop military sector and 5 points in the vicinity, including the Ranger training centre. They completely wiped out 3 puppet companies on Nov. 28 and 2 companies of Rangers the following day. Especially, on the night of Nov. 29 (9 p.m.)

they assaulted Battalion 1, Brigade 1, U.S. Infantry Division 1, wiping out that battalion and destroying an 80 mm gun emplacement and a number of armoured cars.

**T**HREE days previously, a column of American troops raiding Ca Tong was intercepted by the P.L.A.F. who annihilated a U.S. company and decimated 2 others and set afire 6 M.41 tanks.

**O**N Highway 13, 16 tanks and armoured carriers were destroyed and an American company wiped out on Nov. 23, at 8 km east

Hon Quan. The following night, Nov. 24, an American company was wiped out and another heavily beaten at 7 km southwest of Hon Quan.

**I**N the Western High Plateaux, despite the victories at Duc To they had concocted, the Yankees had to send the Air Mobile Cavalrymen from Binh Dinh to the rescue of their troops in dire straits in the Western High Plateaux. On Nov. 24 a convoy of 68 vehicles carrying supplies from An Khe to Pleiku, accompanied by tanks and armoured cars, was entirely destroyed by the P.L.A.F. on Highway 19, at 20 km east of Pleiku town.

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**S**INCE the time the American imperialists stepped up their war of aggression in the Mekong delta, especially since the beginning of winter, their helicopters and war vessels have been destroyed or damaged in greater and greater numbers. In the Ham Luong, Ba Rai, Cua Dai and Co Chien rivers, hundreds of their vessels have been sunk or damaged at such a quick tempo that the aggressors had to set up a floating base in the Ham Luong river, 3 km southwest of Ben Tre town, to repair the damaged vessels. That base which occupied all a section of the river was made up of a big vessel

defended by 8 LCTs of various sizes, 6 105 mm cannons, 4 105 mm guns, 4 57 mm recoilless guns, and from 2 to 4 choppers. The engineers and technicians who worked on board were of American, Australian and New Zealand nationalities. That floating base was within the defence of the Gieng Xoi post in the east, the Cau Bac post in the north, the Thanh Tan post in the west and a battalion of puppet troops which carried out a round-the-clock patrol. It was provided with a system of radar, searchlight and entanglements of barbed wire in the river bed. The aggressors rely so much on the security of that

base that even American "advisors" working in Ben Tre town came to spend the night there.

The dark sky was faintly starlit. A chopper and an M.28 patrolled overhead with their lights on. The wind was cold. The flow got in swiftly. From time to time, Cau Bac, Gieng Xoi and Thanh Tan posts

released bursts of machine-gun fire at random. The floating base was lit like a small town quarter; its heavy guns pointed their black muzzles in all directions; fire and smoke rose up from the two chimneys of the repair vessel; the powerful searchlights swept the surface of the river. The Yankees and satellite troops walked to and fro on the deck: just at the time when the enemy detected no sign of suspicion that the Liberation fighters closed in upon him unnoticed and waited the order for the assault. Their guns and highly explosive shells were ready to go into action.

Suddenly at midnight about 30 vessels flocked in from Ben Tre town, from the sea and from Thanh Tan. The order to fire was given: deafening explosions were heard, columns of water gushed up at dozen metres high, the eight landing craft were sent to the bottom in no time, all the crews on board were blown up. Only the repair ship remained afloat.

The P.L.A.F. fighters calmly lobbed shells on the ship. Flames belched out of the steering room, followed by

thundering explosions from the floating base. The enemies on board and equipment were hurled up in the sky and fell into the river. From the cabins and windows, a huge column of flames rose at a hundred metres from the water level, wrapping entirely the big ship. The aggressors who were still alive cried at the top of their voices; as our fighters could see, they were thrown in such confusion that they wanted to jump into the water but were prevented by the intense fire which burnt them alive. The vessels around it ran away at full speed.

In the bright light of the fire which gutted that American floating base only after a round of the patrolling chopper, thousands of people saw the brilliant exploit of our fighters. The puppet soldiers who followed our compatriots to the river banks could also witness the punishment meted out to the invaders.

The fire was so big that only the next morning did the enemy dare to come to the rescue of the ship; but the fire was put out only at four o'clock in the afternoon.

An ambush by the P.L.A.F.

